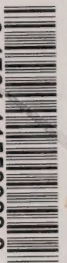



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# CANADA'S GREEN PLAN

THE FIRST YEAR



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

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# Introduction

## Canada's Green Plan

On December 11, 1990, the federal government released Canada's Green Plan, a comprehensive national strategy and \$3-billion action plan for sustainable development. Founded on public consultations, Canada's Green Plan responds to the environmental concerns of Canadians, and aims to secure for current and future generations a safe and healthy environment and a sound and prosperous economy.

The Green Plan marks a fundamental shift in the way the Government of Canada acts on environmental problems. Environmental protection and economic development are seen as mutually supporting rather than mutually exclusive. Thus, while continuing action on a wide range of specific issues from toxic chemicals to climate change, the Green Plan attacks the cause of environmental problems and environmentally unsustainable development: poor decision-making at all levels of society.

What we decide as individuals, acting alone or within a business, government or other organization, has an impact on the natural world and, ultimately, on our own health and well-being. Canada's Green Plan prescribes the actions necessary for environmentally sound economic decision-making, from improving environmental science and information to the balanced use of effective environmental laws and market instruments.

Canada's Green Plan is rooted in the knowledge that the environment must be a forethought, not an afterthought, in decision-making throughout the government. It is an integrated, government-wide effort supported by over 40 federal departments and agencies. Ten departments are involved directly in its implementation: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Energy Mines and Resources Canada, Forestry Canada, Agriculture Canada, Environment Canada, Industry, Science and Technology Canada, External Affairs and International Trade Canada, Transport Canada and Health and Welfare Canada.

No single government, business, group or individual, however, can meet Canada's environmental challenges alone. The environment is everyone's responsibility. But that responsibility can be met only through co-operative efforts. The Green Plan provides the basis for new and stronger partnerships for achieving sustainable development.

## Reporting to Canadians on Progress

The Government is committed to providing Canadians with regular reports on meeting the targets and schedules set out in the Green Plan. Canadians must be informed about Green Plan progress to be effective partners in its implementation.

This document, *Canada's Green Plan: The First Year*, is the first progress report. Subsequent reports will be released on a fiscal-year basis, with the next report scheduled for April 1993.

The report provides Canadians with a review of progress on implementing the Green Plan during its first year. The report summarizes actions on each of the specific program targets set out for 1991 as well as further progress in support of the Green Plan's goals.

## Highlighting First Year Achievements

Substantial progress has been made on the Green Plan's first-year program targets and its longer-term priorities. By the end of the fiscal year, more than 80 per cent of the first-year program targets will be met; the rest will receive action in 1992/93. With these initiatives, federal expenditures on the environment will increase by \$250 million, or almost 20 per cent, in the 1991/1992 fiscal year. Of particular note are the following:

- On March 11, the Minister of State for Indian Affairs and Northern Development, together with the Minister of National Health and Welfare, announced the \$275-million Indian Health and Water initiative to accelerate and improve the provision of water and sewer systems to Indian reserves.

- On March 13, the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the United States signed the Canada/U.S. Air Quality Accord to control transboundary air pollution.
- On April 29, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, together with the Minister of the Environment, announced the \$100-million Arctic Environmental Strategy to preserve and enhance the integrity, health, biodiversity and productivity of our Arctic ecosystems.
- On June 1, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Minister of Forestry, and the Minister of the Environment announced the \$100-million Fraser River Basin Action Plan to clean up the Fraser River and restore salmon populations to historical levels.
- On June 26, the Minister of Transport, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, and the Minister of the Environment announced the \$100-million marine environmental emergencies response strategy to improve Canada's marine spill prevention and response capability.
- On September 25, the Minister of Forestry announced the \$100-million Partners in Sustainable Development of Forests program to help shift the emphasis of Canadian forestry from timber management alone to an approach that considers other forest values such as wildlife habitat, recreation and biodiversity.

The Government has made important progress in implementing elements of the Green Plan that promote environmentally sound decision-making:

- In May, the Minister of the Environment released a preliminary report on a National Set of Environmental Indicators.
- The Minister of International Trade announced that the North American Free Trade Agreement would be subjected to an environmental review.
- On October 7, the Minister for Science and the Minister of the Environment announced the \$100-million Technology for Environmental Solutions program to

help develop and commercialize the technologies needed to prevent and clean up pollution.

- On November 15, the Minister of the Environment announced a program to assist public participation in the review of projects subject to environmental assessment by a panel.
- The Minister of Agriculture, in co-operation with the provinces, began the environmental review of existing agricultural programs.
- On December 4, the Minister of the Environment, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, and the Minister of National Health and Welfare announced a Pulp and Paper Regulatory Package.
- Details of a \$55.7-million initiative to enhance enforcement of environmental regulations were also released.

#### How to Read the Report

The report sets out actions taken since December 11, 1990, in support of the eight broad national environmental goals established in the Green Plan:

1. Clean Air, Water and Land
2. Sustaining Our Renewable Resources
3. Our Special Spaces and Species
4. Canada's Unique Stewardship: The Arctic
5. Global Environmental Security
6. Environmentally Responsible Decision-Making
7. Starting In Our Own House  
(Federal Environmental Stewardship)
8. Emergency Preparedness.

Each program target is restated with a cross-reference to the page in the Green Plan document. Opposite each program target is a short summary of the actions taken.

# I. Life's Three Essentials – Clean Air, Water and Land

## Green Plan

### Our Health and the Environment are Inseparable

#### Health and Environment Action Plan

In 1991, the Minister of National Health and Welfare will release the Health and Environment Action Plan. This plan will contain the detailed measures necessary to identify and address certain human health problems associated with environmental pollution. It will include both national and international initiatives, with a view to facilitating individual and community action. In particular, it will focus on those groups of Canadians most at risk from environmental stresses. (*Green Plan*, page 28)

### Continuing Action to Protect and Restore Our Water

#### Drinking Water Supplies Must be Safe and Secure

In 1991, the federal government will introduce a Drinking Water Safety Act. (page 35)

The Government will significantly accelerate the provision of water and sewer systems to Indian reserves in order to address health and safety problems. Virtually all the projects will be administered and implemented by Indian communities. (page 35)

#### We Must Clean Up Our Past Mistakes

Beginning in 1991, in co-operation with local and provincial governments and industry, a sustainable development management plan will be prepared for the Fraser River and Burrard Inlet. (page 36)

## Action

On March 11, 1991, the Minister of State for Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Minister of National Health and Welfare announced a \$25-million Drinking Water Safety Program for Natives. The first component of the Action Plan on Health and Environment, it provides water testing, water monitoring and training for band staff on Indian Reserves. The remaining components of the Action Plan will be introduced beginning in the winter of 1991-92.

The legislation will be introduced by the Minister of National Health and Welfare in 1992.

On March 11, 1991, the Minister of State for Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Minister of National Health and Welfare announced that \$250 million will be made available to accelerate the establishment and improvement of water and sewage services on reserves. On the completion of this program 92 per cent of existing houses on reserves will have adequate potable water services and 89 per cent will have proper sewage services.

On June 1, 1991, the Fraser River Basin Action Plan was announced by the ministers of the Environment and of Fisheries and Oceans. This \$100-million initiative is designed to clean up British Columbia's Fraser River, restore it to environmental health, and return salmon populations to historical levels of abundance.

The federal government will support efforts to restore Atlantic "hot spots" over the next five years. In developing and implementing remedial action plans, the Government will work with the provinces, local governments, industry and other stakeholders to establish targets and schedules for the control of pollution sources. (page 37)

#### **Pollution Prevention in Our Inland Waters**

Canada will work with the United States to develop a bilateral action plan for comprehensive pollution prevention in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basin. The federal government will commit funding for technology demonstration and community education projects to support this plan. Canada will establish a Great Lakes Pollution Prevention Centre by 1992 to act as a focal point for research and information activities. (page 37)

Together with provincial and territorial governments, the federal government will participate in a three-year environmental impact study on the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments in the Slave-Peace-Athabasca River Basin region, in fulfilment of the recent recommendations of the Alberta-Pacific Environmental Impact Assessment Review Board. (page 37)

The Fraser River Basin Action Plan builds on the knowledge and experience gained through co-operative action on the Fraser River Estuary Management Program.

Under the Action Plan, a committee has been formed with municipalities, provincial ministries and public interest groups to begin developing a sustainable management plan for the Fraser River.

On June 24, 1991, an agreement was signed between the federal government, the B.C. government and local agencies, committing them to work together to protect and improve the environmental quality of Burrard Inlet.

The ministers of the Environment and of Veterans Affairs have announced a commitment of \$10 million to develop Remedial Action Plans for at least 12 Atlantic harbours and coastal areas.

On March 5, 1991, the Minister of the Environment announced a commitment of \$25 million to prevent pollution in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. The initiative consists of three components: strategy development; demonstration projects; and education and awareness. On October 1, 1991, the Minister of the Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Administrator announced a binational pollution prevention plan for Lake Superior. On November 29, 1991, the Government announced that Sarnia would be the site of the Great Lakes Pollution Prevention Centre.

On September 27, 1991, a Canada-Alberta-NWT Northern Rivers Study Agreement was signed. The three-and-a-half-year technical study will gather comprehensive information on the cumulative impact of development on the three rivers.

#### We Will Improve Water Science

The federal government will take steps to see that Environment Canada's Wastewater Technology Centre works even more closely with its major partners, industry and the provinces, and that it will ensure more rapid commercialization of the technology it develops. (page 40)

#### We Will Be More Effective Stewards of Coastal Waters

In order to ensure the ongoing protection of Canada's coastal waters, the Government will put in place, effective immediately, a five-year Ocean Dumping Action Plan. Canada will convene an international panel of experts in May 1991 to develop the framework for a global protocol for protecting the marine environment from all sources of pollution. (page 41)

By the end of 1991, a discussion paper on a Canada Oceans Act will be released by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans for public discussion. The proposed Act will, among other things, provide a legal basis for the protection of the marine environment consistent with international law, and designation of marine protected areas. (page 42)

#### A National Regulatory Action Plan

The proposed federal regulations for the control of emissions of dioxins and furans from pulp and paper mills, and amendments to the Fisheries Act regulations setting new limits on other pulp and paper industry effluents, will be issued in 1991 and will be in full force by 1994. (page 47)

On July 2, 1991, the Minister of the Environment and the Minister for Science announced a contract between Environment Canada and RockCliffe Research and Technology Inc. to manage the marketing and commercialization of new technologies developed at the Centre.

On November 7, 1991, the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of State for the Environment unveiled the \$10-million Ocean Dumping Control Action Plan. The plan includes improved regulations under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, enhanced surveillance and a national research and information program to reduce persistent plastics. An intergovernmental meeting of experts, held in Halifax in May 1991, developed an action plan on land-based sources of marine pollution.

A discussion paper will be released after consultation with the provinces.

On December 4, 1991, the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Minister of National Health and Welfare announced a Pulp and Paper Regulatory Package which contains new regulations under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act and amendments to regulations under the Fisheries Act.

The new regulations will require the industry to introduce changes to pulp and paper processing which will prevent the formation of dioxins and furans, greatly reduce organochlorine levels overall and strictly control conventional pollutants in pulp mill effluents. Canada is the first country in the world to implement national regulations on dioxins and furans in pulp mill effluents.

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## Smog is a Visible Threat

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### Controlling and Reducing Emissions

By 1991, the Government will begin negotiation of agreements with the provinces, identifying interim NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC emission targets for the year 2000 and setting out the actions each government will take. (page 53)

### International Agreements

Canada will continue to work with the Economic Commission for Europe to conclude an international protocol on VOC emissions which, in parallel with the NO<sub>x</sub> protocol, will achieve specified environmental quality objectives. (page 56)

### A National Waste Reduction Plan

In co-operation with provincial and territorial governments, the private sector and community groups, the Government will promote the "four Rs" of waste management, and will expand the National Waste Exchange Program and establish an Office of Waste Management to co-ordinate federal programs under the National Waste Reduction Plan. (page 59)

### Managing Hazardous Wastes

The Government will take further action to reduce the generation of hazardous wastes and ensure the safe transportation and disposal of hazardous wastes in Canada. These measures will include, by 1992, developing a computerized tracking system to monitor the movement of hazardous wastes in and out of Canada. (page 59)

The regulatory package will be published in *Canada Gazette*, Part I, on December 14. Final approval and publication in *Canada Gazette*, Part II, will take place following a 60 day review period.

On December 6, 1991 the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of State for the Environment announced a \$30 million program to combat smog in Canada. The initiative will enable the federal government to meet its commitments under Phase I of a federal-provincial Management Plan to reduce smog-causing emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds. As part of this initiative, negotiations with the provinces where smog is a major problem (British Columbia, southern Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick) will start by January 1992. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) is committed to having some agreements signed by March 1992.

The agreement was signed on November 19, 1991, in Geneva. It calls for a 30-per-cent reduction in two designated areas (Fraser Valley in British Columbia and the Windsor-Québec corridor), as well as a national freeze at 1988 levels by 1999.

The Minister of the Environment released the \$25-million Federal Waste Reduction Plan following its endorsement by the CCME on November 6, 1991. The main components of the plan include creation of the first national inventory and profile of wastes and an expansion of the National Waste Exchange. The Office of Waste Management has been established to co-ordinate the plan.

As part of the Federal Waste Reduction Plan, the computerized tracking system to monitor the movement of hazardous wastes in and out of Canada is being expanded in response to the Regulations Respecting the Export and Import of Hazardous Wastes.

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## Cutting Wastes in Half

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#### **Cleaning Up Contaminated Sites**

The Government will work with the provinces to have in place, by 1991, agreements with participating provinces for the implementation of a program to clean up abandoned hazardous waste sites in Canada. (page 60)

#### **Working Internationally**

Domestic regulations to implement the provisions of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal are being drafted by the federal government and will be issued in 1991. Canada will be able to ratify the Convention as soon as the regulations become law. (page 60)

On August 21, 1991, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources announced the Government's decision to complete the Co-operative Siting Process, begun in 1988, for siting a facility to manage low-level radioactive wastes, currently located in the Port Hope area. A budget of \$22 million over four years has been set.

The Government of Canada has signed agreements with seven provinces (British Columbia, Ontario, Alberta, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Newfoundland) totalling some \$230 million for the clean-up of contaminated "orphan" sites and the development and demonstration of new remedial technologies. Agreements with the remaining provinces and territories will be signed by early 1992.

Extensive public consultations are in their final stages. Proposed regulations will be published in *Canada Gazette* by March 31, 1992.

## II. Sustaining Our Renewable Resources

### Green Plan

### Action

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#### Moving Towards Sustainable Forest Development

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##### Partnerships for Sustainable Forestry

The Government, in partnership with provinces and industry in the major Canadian forest regions, will encourage the creation of up to eight demonstration projects as working models of sustainable development. Forestry Canada will provide scientific and financial support to its partners in the program, the land owners and the land managers. (page 62)

On September 25, 1991, the Minister of Forestry announced a \$100-million, six-year Partners in Sustainable Development of Forests program. The cornerstone of this program is the Network of Model Forests. A competitive process, administered by the National Advisory Council on Model Forests, was initiated for the selection sites.

Between September 30 and October 7, 1991, information sessions were held across the country to provide potential applicants with details of the program. A total of 91 proposals were received by the October 25, 1991, deadline -- one third from the forest industry, one third from native and community organizations, and one third from various other groups including provincial governments, universities, woodlot owners associations and environmental groups. Decisions on model forests sites will be made by June 1, 1992.

In 1991, the Minister of Forestry will release Canada's first report to Parliament on the state of Canadian forests. (page 64)

On April 9, 1991, the Minister of Forestry tabled in the House of Commons the first annual report, entitled *The State of Forestry in Canada*. This report represents Canada's first national account of forestry activity. The second report is scheduled to be tabled in February 1992.

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#### Achieving Environmental Sustainability in Agriculture

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##### Dealing with Pesticides

In April 1989, the Government of Canada announced a broad multi-stakeholder review of the federal pesticides regulatory process. In July 1990, the Federal Pesticide Registration Review Team released its preliminary report outlining a proposal for a revised regulatory system. A final report is expected in 1991. (page 72)

The Review Team submitted its final report in December 1990. The Government will respond publicly to the report's recommendations in 1992.

## Sustainable Fisheries

### A National Sustainable Fishery

By 1991, amendments will be made to the Fisheries Act to increase fines substantially for all domestic fisheries and fish habitat violations and to strengthen the enforcement powers of fishery officers. By 1991, the Compliance Policy for the habitat provisions of the Fisheries Act will be implemented in support of amendments to the Act. (page 75)

The Government will develop, by 1991, an action plan to implement the Recreational Fisheries Policy. This will be undertaken in consultation with the provinces as well as recreational fishing groups. (page 77)

Canada is committed to the implementation of the U.N. resolution for a moratorium on all large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing by June 30, 1992, in the absence of effective conservation and management measures. The resolution calls for a scientific review by the international community by June 30, 1991, of the best available data on the impact of large-scale driftnet fishing. (page 77)

On January 17, 1991, new amendments to the Fisheries Act became law. The amendments substantially increase penalties for fish habitat offenses under the Act, and give Canada one of the most stringent penalty regimes of any major fishing nation. Initial contact has been made with the provinces to begin discussions on co-operative management of fish habitat.

Consultations with public- and private- sector recreational fisheries stakeholders have been conducted, and a national action plan for Sustainable Recreational Fisheries has been developed.

Canada hosted an international scientific review in June 1991. Canada signed Protocol II of the Wellington Convention in September 1991, which supports a ban on all driftnet fishing for all species in the south Pacific. Canada, the U.S.S.R., Japan and the United States have also agreed to terminate high-seas salmon fishing in the north Pacific. The four countries are expected to ratify this agreement by the spring of 1992.

### III. Our Special Spaces and Species

#### Green Plan

#### Action

#### Protecting Our Unique Ecological Areas

##### Completing the Parks System

The Government will establish at least five new national parks by 1996 and negotiate agreements for the remaining 13 parks required to complete the terrestrial system by 2000. The Government will also establish three new national marine parks by 1996, including South Moresby/Gwaii Haanas and Saguenay, and an additional three national marine parks in areas to be confirmed by the year 2000. (page 80)

The Government of Canada will provide additional assistance in undertaking studies, plans, resource evaluations and monitoring of designated rivers to provincial and territorial governments participating in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. (page 80)

##### Protecting Canada's National Heritage

To protect the vast array of natural resources within the national parks system, the Government will strengthen its scientific and protective measures over the next five years. (page 81)

##### Further Actions for Protecting Endangered Spaces

In 1991, the Government of Canada will adopt the Federal Policy on Wetland Conservation. (page 82)

Discussions are taking place with the Inuvialuit concerning the proposed establishment of Banks Island National Park (Northwest Territories). Other negotiations for new national parks concern Churchill (Manitoba), Torngat Mountains (Newfoundland), Bluenose Lake, Wager Bay, East Arm of Great Slave Lake, North Baffin Island (all in the Northwest Territories) and Old Crow Flats (Yukon).

Management planning is proceeding for both Saguenay (Quebec) and South Moresby (British Columbia). Feasibility studies relating to the West Isles (New Brunswick) proposal are being updated and a public consultation program is being planned.

Joint actions have been undertaken involving 21 rivers in nine provinces and territories.

The Minister of the Environment has initiated a program of prescribed burns in four national parks in order to enable the regeneration of natural species. As well, training initiatives and three ecosystem studies have been undertaken to enhance the management and protection of national park resources.

The Government is adopting the Federal Policy on Wetland Conservation this year, as announced in the National Wildlife Strategy, which was released on November 29, 1991.

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## Sustaining Canada's Wealth of Wildlife

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**Protecting Wild Species: The National Wildlife Strategy**  
The wildlife initiatives of Canada's Green Plan will put the federal government firmly on the road to full implementation of the National Wildlife Policy. (page 84)

In support of Canada's international obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), Canada will reduce the threats that poaching and illegal trade pose to domestic and foreign wildlife conservation by introducing the Wild Animal and Plant Protection Act (WAPPA) in 1991. (page 86)

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## Building Upon Our Historical Heritage

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**Commemorating Canada's Historical Heritage**  
The Government will commemorate seven key historic themes currently under-represented in the national historic sites system by 1996, and an additional eight by the year 2000. The eight additional priority sites will represent most of the key resource development industries and settlements that were important to Canada's early history. (page 89)

On November 29, 1991, the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of State for the Environment announced the details of the \$34.9-million National Wildlife Strategy, which comprises measures to protect wildlife diversity, conserve wildlife habitat and safeguard healthy ecosystems. Initiatives range from enhancing wildlife research to implementing the Federal Policy on Wetland Conservation, and the Pacific Coast Joint Venture and developing a federal policy on endangered species. These initiatives, together with the Wild Animal and Plant Protection Act, will permit essentially full implementation of the federal government's responsibilities under the National Wildlife Policy, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative adopted by the Wildlife Ministers' Council of Canada in September 1990.

On November 7, 1991, the Wild Animal and Plant Protection Act was introduced in the House of Commons by the President of the Treasury Board. The Act will prevent illegal trade in wildlife, particularly endangered species, and will help protect Canadian ecosystems by controlling the import of designated harmful or undesirable animal or plant species. \$12.3 million has been set aside to ensure effective enforcement of the Act.

Acquisition of the Bar U Ranch (Alberta) and Ryan Premises (Newfoundland) is being finalized. A Memorandum of Understanding with Newfoundland to establish Red Bay National Historic Site will be concluded. An agreement is being concluded for Environment Canada's Parks Service to operate Manoir Papineau National Historic Site.

Management planning is under way for Grosse-Île National Historic Site (Quebec) and the Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site (British Columbia).

Cost-sharing agreements are being negotiated for Manitou Mounds National Historic Site in Ontario and McLean Mill National Historic Site in British Columbia. As well, an agreement has been signed with the Gardenton Museum Board to assist in the purchase of the Korol Homestead in Manitoba.

#### Protecting Canada's Historical Resources

The Government will support new conservation, management, scientific and training measures over the next five years. (page 90)

Measures are being taken to improve the management of artifacts and historic objects. As well, conservation and archaeological surveys and assessments are being undertaken to mitigate resource threats. A training strategy is being developed to improve cultural resource management practices.

## IV. Canada's Unique Stewardship: The Arctic

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### Preserving the Integrity of our Northland

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#### Green Plan

**The Arctic Environmental Strategy**  
The federal government will implement an Arctic Environmental Strategy, a plan to achieve sustainable development in the Canadian Arctic. (page 92)

#### Action

On April 29, 1991, the ministers of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and of the Environment announced the Arctic Environmental Strategy, a \$100-million initiative designed to preserve and enhance the integrity, health, biodiversity and productivity of our Arctic ecosystems for the benefit of present and future generations.

The strategy sets out four specific programs to be carried out over the next six years:

- a program to identify, reduce and, wherever possible, eliminate chemical contaminants;
- a plan to clean up unsafe, hazardous and unsightly waste;
- a program to improve the management and protection of northern waters; and
- a plan to work with territorial and community governments to integrate environmental and economic efforts.

Details for the first year of the strategy (1991-92) for the Yukon and Northwest Territories have been announced.

In addition, Canada obtained a commitment from all circumpolar states to an Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy at a ministerial meeting held in Finland in June 1991.

## V. Global Environmental Security

### Global Warming: Action at Home and Abroad

#### Green Plan

##### Limiting Net Emissions

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources will table a National Energy Efficiency and Alternative Energy Act dealing specifically with regulation of minimum energy-efficiency levels in energy-using equipment. (page 103)

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources will take action to improve energy efficiency in buildings and equipment. (pages 103, 104)

Accelerate development and market penetration of alternative transportation fuels. (page 105)

The Government of Canada will launch a major public information campaign, beginning in 1991. (page 107)

In 1991, the Government of Canada will work co-operatively with individuals and organizations to launch a community tree-planting program. The goal of this program is to encourage the planting of up to 325 million trees in rural areas as well as in and around 6,000 cities, towns and communities across Canada. (page 107)

#### Action

On October 29, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources introduced in the House of Commons the Energy Efficiency Act, which provides the authority to set federal minimum energy-efficiency standards for energy-using products, to continue the Energuide labelling of appliances and products, and to collect information and data on Canadian energy consumption and the use of alternative energy.

On November 22, 1991, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources announced a number of initiatives to improve energy efficiency, including revision of the 1983 federal Measures for Energy Conservation in New Buildings, updating of the R-2000 housing construction standards, and the Building Research and Development and Technology Transfer initiative.

On December 4, 1991, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources announced a set of initiatives to improve the performance and expand the availability and use of alternative transportation fuels technologies.

An announcement will be made in 1992.

In 1991, the National Community Tree Planting Foundation was established. Work is under way to develop a marketing plan to attract sponsors and form partnerships for planting projects. The program is scheduled to begin during the Spring 1992 planting season.

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## Ozone Depletion: Accelerating Control Measures

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### Improving Our Understanding of Global Warming

The Government of Canada will significantly increase its commitment to scientific research on climate change. Specific elements of the program will include annual reports on the state of the Canadian climate, beginning in 1991. (page 110)

### Stimulating International Action on Global Warming Solutions

Canada will aggressively pursue an International Framework Convention on Climate Change and development of any necessary protocols. (page 111)

### Accelerating Controls and Other Measures

The Government will accelerate the domestic regulatory program, support recovery and recycling of ozone-depleting substances, strengthen its ability to verify the effectiveness of controls, and provide more assistance for international efforts to protect the ozone layer. (page 114)

The report *Understanding Atmospheric Change* is scheduled to be released by the Minister of the Environment in December 1991. Additional reports on the subject will be issued early in 1992 and annually thereafter.

Several scientific projects support global change research. These include activities at three global change observatories and the production of atlases. In addition, through remote sensing and satellites, information is being collected that will assist the monitoring of global climate change.

Canada is heavily involved in International Climate Change Convention negotiations. The development of Canada's negotiating positions is supported by extensive consultations involving provincial ministers of Environment and Energy and private-sector representatives.

On August 25, 1991, the Minister of the Environment announced \$25 million in funding to strengthen Canada's fight against ozone-layer depletion. A High Arctic Ozone Observatory will be established at Eureka, Northwest Territories, to provide a focal point for domestic and international research and monitoring of the vulnerable Arctic ozone layer. The program also includes accelerated regulatory controls to phase out CFCs by 1997.

On November 16, 1991, amendments to Ozone Depleting Regulations #3 (Products) were proposed in *Canada Gazette*, Part I. These amendments will prohibit any packaging material made with CFCs and portable foam extinguishers containing halons or CFCs. Final approval and publication in *Canada Gazette*, Part II, are expected before the end of March 1992.

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## Acid Rain: Building on Success

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### Expanding Acid Rain Controls

Agreements will be re-negotiated in 1991 with the eastern provinces to cap sulphur dioxide emissions permanently at their reduced 1994 levels until the year 2000. (page 120)

Beginning in 1991, the federal government will provide regular progress reports on the extended and expanded Canadian Acid Rain Control Program. (page 121)

### International Agreements

Canada will conclude a Transboundary Air Quality Agreement with the United States as quickly as possible. (page 122)

### Verifying Progress

The federal government will continue its acid rain research and monitoring efforts to verify the adequacy of both Canadian and American acid rain controls. (page 122)

Negotiations are under way and all agreements should be concluded early in 1992.

The first report is expected to be released by the Minister of the Environment in March 1992.

On March 13, 1991, the Prime Minister and the President signed the Agreement between Canada and the United States of America on Air Quality. Under the terms of the Air Quality Accord, Canada and the United States pledge to control air pollution that flows across the international boundary.

On September 23, 1991, the Minister of the Environment announced that \$30 million will go toward Canada's acid rain control program. The funds will be used to implement the federal/provincial commitment to permanently cap SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Canada, and to verify the effectiveness of Canadian and American actions called for in the Canada/U.S. Air Quality Accord.

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## Accelerating International Progress on the Environment

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### 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)

Canada will establish a national secretariat to assist the participation of Canadians in the conference. Consultations will take place with stakeholders. Canada will provide funding to the Secretary General for studies needed to define the issues to be discussed by the conference and for assistance to delegates from developing countries. (pages 125, 126)

The UNCED National Secretariat was established, and consultations are under way. Canada has contributed \$4.75 million to support preparations for the conference. The Canadian International Development Agency has assisted with national preparatory processes for UNCED in a number of developing countries. It has also provided financial support to environment, development and youth groups in Canada to make possible consultations with developing countries' non-government organizations (NGOs) and to help them prepare for UNCED.

### Advancing International Law

Canada will work with its international partners to establish strong and effective international laws for the protection of the global environment. (page 125)

In June 1991, Canada and the other circumpolar states committed themselves to an Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy.

On November 19, 1991, Canada, the United States and most European countries signed an international protocol calling for a 30-per cent reduction of VOC emissions by 1999 in areas where ground-level ozone is too high.

Also, Canada is actively involved in international negotiations to develop a Climate Change Convention and a Biodiversity Convention.

#### **Bilateral Relationships**

Canada will work to develop stronger bilateral relationships on environmental issues. (page 128)

On February 1, 1991, a Canada-France Memorandum of Understanding was signed, promoting technical and policy co-operation on a broad range of environmental issues. As noted above, Canada and the United States signed the Air Quality agreement.

## VI. Environmentally Responsible Decision-Making

### Partnerships Equal Solutions

#### Green Plan

##### Partnerships with Non-Government Organizations

The federal government will provide additional funding to Canada's environmental non-government organizations (ENGOS) beginning in 1991 through an increase in the Class Grant Fund and an increase in the annual contribution to the Canadian Environmental Network. (page 135)

The Government of Canada is fully committed to building partnerships with all environmental stakeholders. By 1991, Environment Canada will establish annual conferences to consult business and labour representatives on current environmental issues and concerns; federal funding will assist NGOs to organize environmental fora involving multi-stakeholder discussions; and additional support will be available to facilitate personnel exchanges between Environment Canada and a wide selection of NGOs. (pages 135, 136)

##### Government, Industry and Consumers Working Together

The federal government will extend the Environmental Partners Fund program for an additional two years and expand the eligibility criteria to include support for non-formal environmental education initiatives, commencing in April 1991. (page 138)

The federal government will strengthen the Environmental Choice program by providing additional funding for increased marketing efforts over the next five years. (page 138)

#### Action

An announcement will be made in 1992.

Business Connexion, a seminar involving representatives of government, business and industry, was held in October 1991. Organization of Labour Connexion has started and labour representatives have been contacted. Thirty-two personnel exchanges have occurred.

On June 6, 1991, the Minister of the Environment announced the expansion of the Environmental Partners Fund program's eligibility criteria to include projects that broaden public environmental awareness and knowledge.

On November 14, 1991, the Minister of State for the Environment announced that the Environmental Partners Fund will receive a further \$20-million in funding, and that its mandate has been extended by three years, until 1997.

A national marketing program was launched on August 26, 1991.

The federal government will expand Environment Week to promote a stronger environmental vision across Canada. (page 139)

#### **Involving Young Canadians**

To engage young Canadians more fully in the environmental debate and to support them in their efforts to co-ordinate action, in 1991, the federal government will establish a Canadian Youth Advisory Council on Environment and Development. A Canadian Youth Secretariat on Environment and Development will be established within the Canadian Youth Foundation to organize Canadian and world youth participation in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Brazil in 1992. This secretariat will organize a National Youth Conference on Environment and Development in 1991. (pages 139, 140)

#### **Improving Public Consultations**

The Government will explore ways of improving the consultation process to involve as many Canadians in as meaningful a manner as possible. (page 140)

#### **State of the Environment Reporting**

The Government of Canada is committed to providing accurate, timely and accessible environmental information to Canadians. In 1991, the second national State of the Environment Report will be released. In May 1991, Canada will host an international forum on environmental information for the 21st century. (pages 141, 142)

On November 14, 1991, the Minister of State for the Environment announced that \$7.5 million over six years would be allocated to enable non-profit organizations at the community level to organize projects that involve the community in specific, practical activities during Environment Week.

On June 26, 1991, the Minister of State for the Environment announced a program to support the activities of the recently created Canadian Youth Secretariat on Environment and Development. Six regional workshops and a National Youth Conference were held between June 25 and August 25, 1991.

To assist stakeholders in focusing their efforts and interventions, Environment Canada produces an Environmental Consultations Calendar. Innovative consultative mechanisms are in place to develop Canada's positions for UNCED and the negotiation of international conventions on global issues, including climate change and biodiversity.

The second Report will be released early in 1992. The International Forum on Environmental Information was held in May 1991, in Montréal.

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## Environmental Citizenship Must be Paramount

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The Government of Canada will, by mid-1991, develop a preliminary national set of environmental indicators and initiate stakeholder consultations. (page 142)

**The Canadian Environmental Citizenship Program**  
To enable Canadians to move from awareness to understanding and responsible action, the Government of Canada will establish the Canadian Environmental Citizenship Program. The Program will seek to encourage constructive and informed discussion through a number of initiatives, including support for partnership activities designed to enhance general environmental awareness and increase understanding of specific issues. (pages 145, 146)

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## Supporting New Science

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**Promoting New Directions in Environmental Science**  
The Government will increase its direct financial support for the next five years to ensure that the Global Change Program continues to function as a national information base and as the focal point for co-ordination with international activities. (page 149)

The Government will fund scholarships, professorial chairs and strategic university grants in the environmental sciences. This program will focus on research activities with an ecosystem perspective. By late 1991, the first round of university chairs will be established. (page 150)

### Supporting Sound Policy and Regulation

The federal government will revitalize its research facilities and equipment and augment its scientific staff over the next five years. (page 150)

### Technology for Solutions

During 1991, the Government of Canada will augment its Technology Development Program to provide technology transfer services to firms. The Government will establish a federal-provincial Environmental Technology Network. (page 150)

A preliminary report on a national set of indicators was released in May 1991. Consultation with stakeholders commenced in the Fall of 1991.

On January 28, 1991, the ministers of the Environment and of Labour, the Minister of State for Transport and the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology announced federal participation in the City of Montréal's "Parc des Îles" project, to convert the "Biosphere" into an environmental and water interpretation centre and to promote the cultural, educational, touristic and economic potential of Île Sainte-Hélène and Île Notre-Dame.

On December 6, 1991, the Government announced \$4.5 million for the Global Change Program.

On September 29, 1991, the Minister of the Environment, the Minister for Science, the Minister of National Health and Welfare and the Secretary of State announced a \$50-million program for Research and Training in Environmental Studies. Funding will be awarded in three categories: fellowships, research chairs and research grants in environmental studies (e.g., health, social and natural sciences and engineering).

Program priorities have been established and an announcement is expected early in 1992.

On October 7, 1991, the Minister for Science and the Minister of the Environment announced the \$100-million Technology for Environmental Solutions initiative, designed to foster the creation of partnerships and to attract funding from the private sector. An \$18-million Technology Transfer Program component will focus on the diffusion of Canadian environmental technologies. An Environmental Technology Network among federal,

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## Legislative, Regulatory and Market Tools for Change

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During 1991, the Government will also launch the Environmental Technology Commercialization Program to provide financial resources on a cost-shared basis for partnerships and joint ventures. (page 151)

In 1991, the Government will introduce an Environmental Innovation Program. The program will invite proposals from any source outside the federal government for research and development that would contribute toward the goals and objectives of The Green Plan. (page 151)

### Stronger Enforcement Mechanisms

With the co-operative efforts of many enforcement agencies such as the RCMP, Customs and Excise and Transport Canada, Environment Canada will enhance its ongoing program of inspections, information exchange and investigations, leading to vigorous enforcement of environmental regulations. (page 156)

### Utilizing Economic Incentives

Market forces are powerful instruments that can and should be harnessed in the pursuit of sustainable development. In 1991, the Government of Canada will establish a program to support practical research into the use of economic instruments to address Canada's major environmental problems. In the spring of 1991, the Government will also release a discussion paper on the use of economic instruments in environmental protection. (pages 157, 158)

provincial and university centres will help to identify and promote expertise and promising commercial technologies.

The \$80-million Environmental Technology Commercialization Program is a major element of the Technology for Solutions initiative announced on October 7, 1991. The program will provide leverage funding to accelerate the development and demonstration of commercially viable environmental technologies.

On November 25, 1991, the ministers of the Environment and Supply and Services announced a \$20-million program to solicit from Canadian industry, universities, native groups, non-government organizations and interested individuals innovative research and development proposals in the areas of the natural sciences, the social sciences, the humanities and the health sciences.

On December 4, 1991, the Minister of the Environment released details of a \$55.7 million initiative to enhance enforcement of environmental regulations, including those which protect animals from poaching in Canada's national parks.

An announcement on the research program and the release of the discussion paper will be made early in 1992.

## VII. Starting In Our Own House (Federal Environmental Stewardship)

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### Federal Environmental Stewardship

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#### Green Plan

**Implementing the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act**  
In 1991, a Participant Funding Program will be established to ensure that stakeholders have the opportunity to participate effectively in the environmental assessment process. (page 161)

**Assessment of Government Policy and Program Initiatives**  
Environmental impact assessments are required for all new proposals coming before Cabinet for decision. (page 162)

**Existing Policy and Program Review**  
Early in 1991, the Government of Canada will begin a comprehensive review of the environmental implications of existing statutes, policies, programs and regulations, and will propose modifications as necessary. (page 162)

**Federal Code of Environmental Stewardship**  
In 1991, the Government will adopt a comprehensive Code of Environmental Stewardship covering all areas of federal operations and activities. (page 163)

#### Action

On November 15, 1991, the Minister of the Environment announced a \$8.5-million initiative designed to assist public participation in the review of projects subject to environmental assessment by a panel. The program includes flexibility to allow for additional funds from other sources to support public participation.

Federal departments are complying with this policy. All Memoranda to Cabinet on new policies and programs must include a statement on the environmental implications of the proposal. Significantly, the proposed North American Free Trade Agreement is undergoing an environmental review.

The Federal-Provincial Working Group on Program Review will present its report to the ministers of Agriculture, setting in motion the environmental review of current agri-food-sector programs. Amendments to the Yukon Placer Act and the Quartz Mining Act to introduce environmental controls on mineral properties are under discussion with the Yukon mineral industry, the territorial government, the Council for Yukon Indians and the Yukon Conservation Society.

On November 22, 1991, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources announced the Federal Building Initiative which addresses both financial and non-financial barriers to energy-efficiency investments in federal departments.

## VIII. Emergency Preparedness

### Environmental Emergencies

#### Green Plan

##### Pollution Emergencies

Over the next five years, preventive measures will be enhanced. They will include improvements to radar and vessel traffic control facilities, electronic charting for tankers, increased inspection of vessels and increased aerial surveillance. By the end of 1991, on-board inspections of foreign-flag vessels will be increased and better-equipped and better-trained response personnel will be in place. (pages 168, 169)

Working with industry and local and provincial governments, the federal government will promote measures to prevent and respond to spills. (page 169)

##### Naturally Occurring Emergencies

Environment Canada will provide earlier detection, better prediction and more timely warnings of severe weather events and of major airborne pollution emergencies. Four Doppler radar facilities will be installed by the end of 1996. (page 170)

#### Action

On June 26, 1991, the ministers of Transport, the Environment, and Fisheries and Oceans announced the marine environmental emergencies response strategy, a \$100-million initiative designed to protect Canada's oceans, coastlines and inland waters from oil and chemical spills. The key elements of the strategy are the prevention of spills, improved preparedness to respond to environmental emergencies, and policies and legislation to improve safety and make polluters pay.

Many of the measures respond to the recommendations of various studies and inquiries, including the public review panel on Tanker Safety and Marine Spills Response Capability, released in November, 1990.

On November 5, 1991, the Minister of State for the Environment announced a \$25-million Hazardous Spills Prevention and Response Program. The program will improve Canada's capability to prevent and respond to pollution emergencies from oil and chemical spills on land and into rivers and lakes, and to accidental releases of toxic substances into the air.

Canada assisted in the oil-spill clean-up efforts in the Persian Gulf by providing airborne remote sensing technology, computer-based mapping technology and expertise to clean oiled birds.

On May 17, 1991, the Deputy Prime Minister announced the installation of a new Doppler weather radar in Edmonton, which is now operational.

On December 5, 1991, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of the Environment announced a \$40 million initiative to upgrade natural hazard and warning systems as well as extreme weather facilities. Improvements include the installation of Doppler radar systems in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario, the completion of the McGill radar in Montreal, and improved surveillance of icebergs.

## Conclusion

Canada's Green Plan – a national strategy and federal action plan – is a priority of the Government of Canada. Sustainable development is a key, long-term objective for this country. Through sustainable development, Canadians will secure for current and future generations a safe and healthy environment and a sound and prosperous economy.

This document reports on the Government's record on the implementation of Canada's Green Plan. It summarizes actions taken on each of the Green Plan's program targets for 1991, and outlines progress on other initiatives. Significant progress has clearly been achieved in furthering specific goals outlined in the Green Plan. The initiatives

undertaken have reflected the Government's continued total commitment to its environmental agenda. It also responds to a strong desire of Canadians to work together to make sustainable development a reality in Canada.

Action on Green Plan initiatives will continue, with \$400 million allocated in the 1992/1993 fiscal year. Co-operative efforts will be accelerated and all Canadians will be challenged to make the environment an essential element of their day-to-day decision-making. The Government is committed to full implementation of Canada's Green Plan.



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